

SPRING 2002

# BRYAN

## Life

### Technology: Blessing or Curse?

#### INSIDE

The Technology  
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# Bryan Life

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*Christ Above All*



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## On the Cover -

Cell phones, laptop computers, and personal digital assistants are all parts of the technology revolution that are becoming more and more common in everyday life. But instant access can also bring information overload. Dr. Jeff Myers examines the blessings and problems of our high-tech world.



The  
Tech

# Technological Temptation:

## Technology and Communication, Sin and Redemption

by Jeff Myers

In the past ten years, technology has profoundly changed the way I communicate. The shift was gradual; in 1992 my graduate school began encouraging students to use e-mail to share ideas with a vast network of scholars (unfortunately for the world of ideas, I used it mainly to correspond with my bride-to-be). In 1994 I discovered the Internet and loved how it put hard-to-find information at my fingertips, reunited me with long-lost acquaintances, and allowed daily interaction with people around the globe.

E-mail and the Internet have transformed my life's work. Whereas my newsletter used to cost \$5,000 per issue to print and mail, I can now communicate with 7,000 subscribers through e-mail for less than \$10. My on-line bookstore provides a significant source of revenue to fund my leadership training ministry.

Communication technology has taken my teaching to a new level as well: my current and former students interact through an on-line bulletin board. Technologically advanced classrooms at Bryan offer access to in-class Internet and a vast array of televised educational programs. I've even used telephone-conferencing technology to bring world-renowned experts to class.

Moreover, technology has brought family closer. My nationwide cell phone makes it possible for my wife to reach me anytime, anywhere. Parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, and grandparents trade family photos through e-mail and send electronic greetings.

Yet I've stopped seeing communication technology as a "miracle cure." Here's why:

### Why Technology is Not the Miracle Cure

Technological innovation makes communication easy, fast, and cheap. Most people are well-acquainted with its marvels, but what of its snares? Consider the following:

- ✱ E-mail offers more frequent communication, but the messages are less substantive because the attention span of e-mail readers is short.
- ✱ Cell phones are useful, but doesn't it trouble you to see people walking around in a daze, ignoring everyone except the invisible person they're conversing with?
- ✱ Television offers hundreds of channels to choose from, yet these vast selections allow them to remain grossly uninformed about what is happening outside their narrow interests.
- ✱ The Internet, for all its power, is home to the most shocking filth that perverse minds can conceive.

## Computer Science preparing majors for high-tech world

ryland's newest major, computer science, is off to a fast start, and the head of the program sees it growing just as fast.

Earl Reed, who joined the faculty in the 2004-05 school year, said his goal was to have the program approved by the 2004-05 school year. Instead, the major was approved this past June, nine students enrolled this past fall, and the first cohort will graduate in May.

"The thing that excites me is that I was online last night for the holidays, and I can see three or five more majors coming in this fall just from that week on," he said.

While there is a lot of excitement on campus, Mr. Reed is quick to point out that the coursework continues to develop to keep up with developments in the field and to offer concentrations in areas of special need in the computer industry.



"In the next couple of years we will be able to direct students into concentrations including database development, software engineering and product management systems, a combination of programming, he said. A more general education in systems, concentrating on combining areas of business and computer science, he said, is in place by the fall. "We want to turn out people who can produce and not directly involved in these areas."

He has his eyes open for "really sharp kids who have been playing with computers all their lives," who are good at math and logical in their thinking.





approach to life as the prime contribution for the new major. Elsewhere, the ability to play computer games doesn't impress me. If that is their sole experience with computers, I don't work with it as an alternative because of the group projects and extended laboratory time."

Like Bryant's emphasis on teaching young people to think logically and rationally, Mr. Ross' and the program's emphasis is to produce graduates "with a broad knowledge base of computer science. We want our graduates to be prepared in computer science to work in a way pleasing to God, and to maintain a strong witness as their field."

Although Mr. Ross is the only computer science faculty member now, Drs. Phil Leemann and Phil Simpson teach the required math



Left: David, assistant professor of computer science, teaches a computer class for Michael Clark, student of the church's Christian Education program.

courses for the major.

And while theory is important, the computer science program requires considerable hands-on experience as well. "We don't do too much with homework, but we have a classroom set up where students work their problems on top-of-the-line equipment," he explains. "We're setting up some basic terminals (the college is computerized for computer networks) so students can work without interfering with the database network." ■

Technology changes the way we think and communicate. It offers enormous potential for good, but it also tempts us to do evil. Some of these temptations are more obvious, such as on-line pornography. Others are more deep-seated, so we tend to not see their dangers until it is too late.

## How Communication Technology Tempts Us

**1. Technology tempts us to think less about what is really important.** Four years ago Prof. John Sommerville from the University of Florida wrote a book called *How the News Makes Us Dumb*. His thesis? The sheer weight of information we must manage each day makes it nearly impossible to discern what is right, true, and significant.

In *Nineteen Eighty-Four* George Orwell bemoaned the destruction of words as feeding ignorance and making the world ripe for totalitarianism. What Orwell could scarcely have imagined was that it would become impossible to communicate about important things, not because of a lack of words, but because people had lost sight of what really mattered.

**2. Technology tempts us to isolate ourselves from one another.** On the surface, technology seems to facilitate communication. Yet it can actually divide us by helping us avoid those who are "not like us." The vast array of television channels and on-line forums make it possible to interact only with those who have the exact same interests as we do.

Granted, it's a welcome relief to feel understood by people who are a lot like me. When I stop communicating with those who are different, however, I am impoverished. True communication should change us. The only way to avoid changing things, or being changed, is to stop communicating. Regrettably, this is exactly what is happening:

Rather than shopping at the corner market, people roam the aisles of 24-hour mega-stores hardly making eye contact with others.

Neighbors move from the front porch to the back deck, from the parlor to the TV room.

Music becomes a means of isolating rather than uniting people.

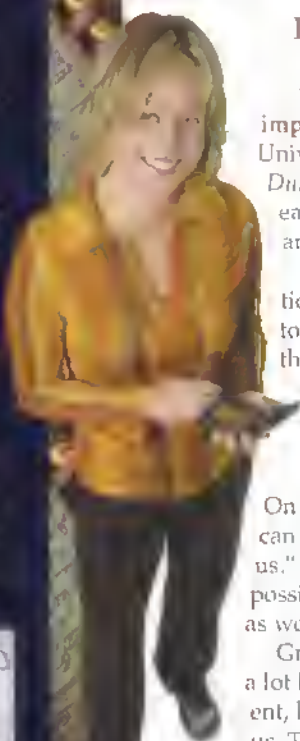
Political groups stop cooperating for the common good and devolve into vicious attacks.

Civilization cannot long survive this fragmentation. The cry of the populace, "Leave me alone." Perhaps the ultimate hell is that the wish will be granted. It is not unlikely that our own nation will collapse not through an explosive roar, but through a deafening silence.

**3. Technology tempts us to be superficial.** God designed person-to-person communication to be profoundly meaningful. Father Walter Ong has said, "It is through the spoken word that we can enter the highest level of intimacy with others, beyond physical union, into the heart and mind of the other."

Communication technology permits us to observe more and communicate less. Our communication ability is anemic, but even to this technology offers a remedy. Do words fail you? You can borrow some clever lines from a movie, or rely on a greeting card manufactured by a professional writer of emotion, or fill in the blanks in a pre-formatted letter.

As we become more superficial, we lose the deep sense of memory that guides our interactions and informs our collective consciousness. Librarian of Congress James Billington has noted that if we lose our sense of the past, we lose our self-identity to a "world of motion without memory." This, he points



ed out soberly, is one of the clinical definitions of insanity.

**4. Technology tempts us to do evil.** To some, technology is an object of worship. Secular humanist philosopher Paul Kurtz wrote in the *Humanist Manifesto II*,

We have virtually conquered the planet, explored the moon, overcome the natural limits of travel and communication; we stand at the dawn of a new age.... Using technology wisely, we can control our environment, conquer poverty, markedly reduce disease, extend our life-span, significantly modify our behavior, alter the course of human evolution and cultural development, unlock vast new powers, and provide humankind with unparalleled opportunity for achieving an abundant and meaningful life.

It didn't seem to occur to Dr. Kurtz that technology could actually feed humankind's destructive tendencies, but that is exactly what has happened. The Nazis were among IBM's first customers, using rudimentary computers to streamline their genocidal plans. Nuclear research promised energy in abundance but resulted in bombs powerful enough to obliterate all living things. Movie studios released beautifully produced films that were morally decrepit, dumbing down the conscience of a nation.

Industry pioneers fantasized that communication technology would bring global harmony. The reality, however, is quite the opposite. Nations the world over have used technology to communicate dehumanizing messages such as, "Jews are not persons," "Babies are not persons," and "Those who resist communism are not persons." The consequences? According to historian R. J. Rummel, almost 170 million persons were killed at the whim of governments in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century alone.

Rather than unlocking human potential for good, technology has handed sinful humanity the keys to our own destruction. Our need for redemption has never been more profound.

## The Redemption of the Word

How can Christians reach others for the Kingdom in a world beset by such temptations? The answer is found in John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word." The Greek word for Word is *logos*, which means "a thought expressed."

When the "logos" is rejected, people lose the ability to communicate deeply with others.

Because God is a communicative God, however, we can use words to create, to encourage, to build community, to reach out to those who are isolated by the fallout of a postmodern society.

**We must use technology appropriately.** We must ensure that our time on the Internet or watching television does not squeeze out personal investment in the lives of others.

**We must take specific steps to protect ourselves and our families from a lack of discernment.** This fact was reinforced when I took my son on a cross-country airline flight. An inappropriate video came on the screen and I asked him to avert his gaze. After a few moments he blurted, "I just can't keep my eyes from looking at it." The images *were* riveting. They were also poisoning his soul and mine. We must be very, very careful about what we allow our minds to absorb.

**We must speak up for truth and righteousness, and use words to fight against evil and injustice.** As communication scholar Quentin Schultze points out, our communication suffers from the sin of omission. Scripture commands us to speak up for the powerless, and we are not excused from this responsibility just because the media obscures the difference between right and wrong.

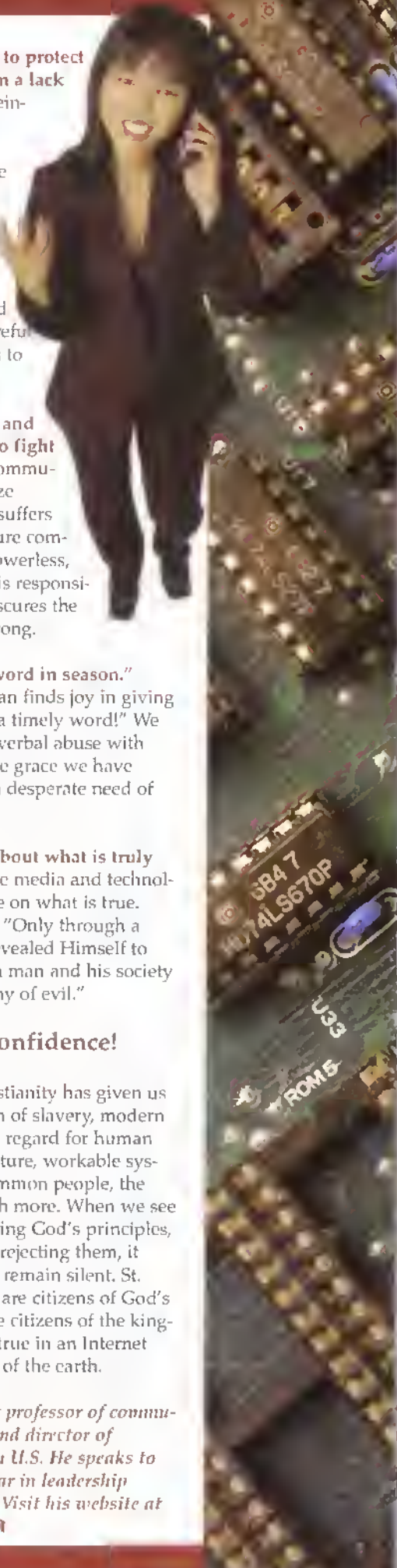
**We must learn to speak a "word in season."** Proverbs 15:23 (NIV) says "A man finds joy in giving an apt reply—and how good is a timely word!" We must replace lying, gossip, and verbal abuse with words of blessing, expressing the grace we have received from God to a world in desperate need of hearing the voice of truth.

**We must break the silence about what is truly important.** We cannot rely on the media and technology to offer a proper perspective on what is true. Historian John Hallowell noted, "Only through a return to faith in God, as God revealed Himself to man in Jesus Christ, can modern man and his society find redemption from the tyranny of evil."

## Speak Up With Confidence!

Let us never forget that Christianity has given us hospitals, civil liberties, abolition of slavery, modern science, the elevation of women, regard for human life, great works of art and literature, workable systems of justice, education for common people, the free-enterprise system, and much more. When we see the good that results from applying God's principles, and the horror that results from rejecting them, it seems cruel and irresponsible to remain silent. St. Augustine was right: those who are citizens of God's kingdom are best equipped to be citizens of the kingdom of man. And that is just as true in an Internet café as it is in the remotest parts of the earth.

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# Losing Our

Out of Iowa comes a style of music that takes away more than your breath. It takes away your soul. The death metal rock group, Slipknot, is the quintessential nihilistic, depersonalized entertainment. Don't think they occupy the fringes of pop entertainment—teenagers buy Slipknot CDs by the hundreds of thousands (earning them platinum status) and the group has been nominated for a Grammy award.

The nine members of Slipknot wear hideous, nonhuman masks when they perform. They show their disdain for individuality by eschewing their personal names and designating themselves by numbers: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. Their first album released in 1996, *Mate. Feed. Kill. Repeat.*, unveiled their serious desire to take the despair of nihilistic rock a step further. Their songs include "Wait and Bleed," "I am Hated," "My Plague," and "Everything Ends."

Slipknot fans are called maggots. They are fiercely loyal to the group and have titled their growing numbers and intense devotion as "spreading the sickness." A number of fan websites caution, "Unless you are willing to die for Slipknot, don't even think about entering this site."

Are the members of Slipknot aware of the frenzied dedication of their fans? Sure they are. Mic Thompson (aka #7) said recently, "Here's what's cool, though: In the end, I own your \*\*\* children. Say what you want, I can tell your kids to \*\*\* kill you in your sleep, and they will."

What is going on here?

## American Culture: Losing Face?

Slipknot did not create the tragic depersonalization that is slowly gripping the American psyche. Their style and attitudes are drawing energy from many sources. John Sullivan, English professor at the University of Virginia, claims that we are a society taken over by technology and entertainment, a phenomenon he calls "depersonalized intimacy." We are on the edge of a culture that makes it possible never to deal with real people. The computer, the Internet, and communication technology are recreating us. We can go to school (and get accredited degrees), party and converse (in internet chat rooms), and browse and buy (in thousands of on-line stores) and never look another person in the face. We know more about our favorite actor on television than we do our neighbor next door.

The ambivalence most of us have toward technology is no longer neutral as we move toward a decisive moment. What kind of people are we becoming? On one hand, we have incredible, instant access to wide-ranging information. On the other, nothing that dignifies us as humans can be found spending hours in front of a computer screen or television set. In fact, the growing danger of depersonalization is made worse by these activities.

Why is depersonalization dangerous, you ask? We have lived in a burgeoning culture where we have become more and more impersonal. But depersonalization is more menacing. To be impersonal is to ignore the dignity of a person as an individual. To depersonalize is to remove any value a person has as a human being. It is to reduce them to the status of a thing. The symptoms of depersonalization are more than troubling.



# Faces

by Dr. William E. Brown

## Three Ugly Faces of Depersonalization

One obvious face of depersonalization in society is seen as a manifestation of *hate*, particularly in bigotry and racism. To hate a group of people because they differ in race, ethnic background, or belief is most easily effected when we depersonalize them. Depersonalization makes it easier to stereotype others - to take away their names, their histories, and their faces - and to tolerate hate, abuse, and even persecution. Hitler depersonalized the Jews and Nero the Christians. In our own country we have seen extreme examples of depersonalized hatred toward African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans and . . . well, the list is sadly long.

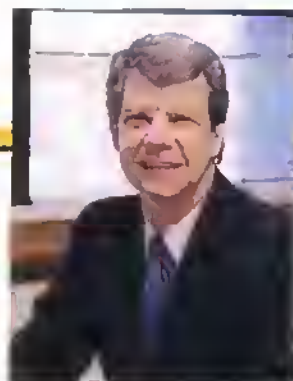
Depersonalization is also seen in *lust*, where pornography is the most blatant example. Pornography depersonalizes a woman, for example, by making her into an object of sexual desire. Donald DeMarco notes, "Pornography is not interested in the face, through which personality shines, but the objectified and devitalized body. Pornography represses personality and exalts the depersonalized, despiritualized body."

Tragically, depersonalization appears as *despair*. Many who isolate themselves from intimate contact with others suffer depression and a loss of meaningful pursuits in life.

The end result of depersonalization is a dreadful view of the value of human life . . . even our own lives. The specter of Columbine or serial killers hovers over our culture.

"It is easier for us to see each other only as strangers, or stereotypes. The serial killer stalks stereotypes," writes Shirley Lynn Scott. In addition, "It's the anonymity factor," said serial killer Ted Bundy on the ease of killing.

"We are creating strangers of each other," says Steven Egger. "As we become strangers we begin to see others more as objects and less as human beings."



## Our Face, God's Face

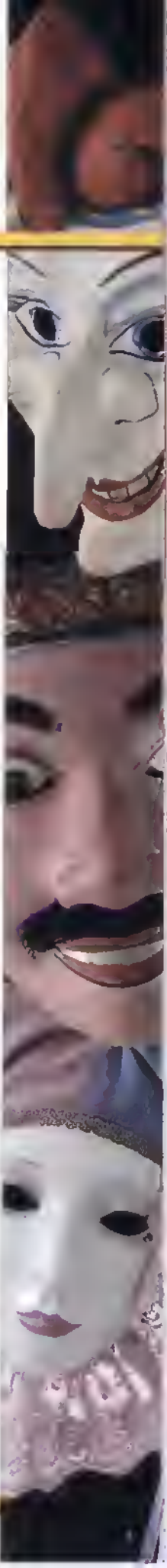
The biblical worldview screams that each individual has infinite value in the sight of God. Nicholas Berdyaev writes, "Every single human soul has more meaning and value than the whole of history with its empires, its wars and revolutions, its blossoming and fading civilizations."

C. S. Lewis says it even more clearly, "You have never talked to a mere mortal. Nations, cultures, arts, civilizations — these are mortal, and their life is to ours as the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit — immortal horrors or everlasting splendors."

Beyond our individual personal value in the sight of God, the Scriptures are clear that we need each other. We find our greatest joys in community where our strengths are encouraged and our weaknesses are endured (Romans 15:2-3; Philippians 2:3-4; 1 Peter 1:22).

Technology will grow into a serious problem only if we allow ourselves to be defined by its structure. The great danger is to think that modern culture must adapt to technology. G. K. Chesterton boldly argues, "The huge modern heresy is to alter the human soul to fit modern social conditions, instead of altering modern social conditions to fit the human soul."

Living out the biblical worldview will make depersonalized icons such as Slipknot a novelty rather than the center of attention. The followers of Jesus are not "maggots" but children, friends, and family. We don't have to die for Him to show our allegiance, He already died to give us life. That makes me feel like somebody special and I can't help but tell everyone how special they are too.





# THE SPORTS PAGE



## LIONS' MEN'S BASKETBALL: SENIORS PROVIDE LEADERSHIP FOR YOUNG BASKETBALL TEAM

"Ups and downs" might best describe the Lions' men's basketball season as the young squad gained valuable experience under the leadership of the team's three seniors.

One of the "ups" certainly was a race through the AAC tournament, with the Lions defeating No. 1 seed and nationally ranked Brevard and the University of Virginia at Wise before falling to Bluefield in the final.

"This could have been a disastrous season given our youth, inexperience, and lack of size. But we scored more than I thought we could, and this has been one of the better offensive rebounding teams we've had since I've been here. We spent most of the year in the top 10 in the country in three-point percentage," Coach Morris Michalski explained.

Despite a 15-20 record, Coach Michalski said there have been some encouragements such as beating nationally ranked and conference leader Brevard College twice and defending conference champions Milligan.

Another encouragement is that the Lions have been competitive in all but five of their losses. "We lost 12 games by 10 points or less," he said. "That indicates we have been in the ballgame and very competitive. We won seven real tight ones too."

The coach said he especially appreciates the leadership and efforts of the team's three seniors, Jared Jones, Aaron Braun-Duin, and Michael Carter. "For us to be halfway good, we had to be overachievers, and these three certainly set the example. They had a positive effect on the other guys."

Coach Michalski also tagged sophomore Chris Travis for recognition. "What a meteoric rise this young man had. What a thrilling scorer and true sparkplug he became. Chris added maturity and polish to his game and everyone has benefited. It's a rare honor for him to be chosen All-Conference as a sophomore."

The three seniors will be lost to graduation this year, but he is excited about the contribution three freshmen – Josh Lucy, Brandon Gordon, and Michael Stone – have made already. "What they have shown me makes me believe they have a great career ahead of them here." He also has high hopes for junior Brett Wright for next season; "He has the potential to become the dominant point guard in our league next season."

Coach Michalski also is excited that seven of his players (see related story) were named to the Academic All-Conference team, and possibly to the NAIA's Academic All-American squad. "That's really significant when half the team has that kind of academic strength," he said.

## TENNIS TEAMS BUILDING ON EXPERIENCE

Bryan's tennis teams were looking forward to the 2002 season as they prepared for the start of league play in February, Coach Bob Andrews said.

The men's and women's teams will be building on experience gained last year and are expecting help from several new players, he said.

Four returning sophomores – Courtney Roberts, Heidi Seera, Katie Lestmann, and Silvia Ayala – will be joined by three players new to the women's team. Dr. Andrews said Kimberly Dyer, Melissa Myers, and Megan Sherrin will add strength to the squad.

"We have good depth this year," Dr. Andrews said. "The girls have about equal ability. This should give us a realistic shot at a better than .500 season." A year ago, the women had a 2-9 record.

"Their attitudes and spirits are good, and I think we'll see positive results," he said.

For the men, returning players Carlos Ayala, Kent Suter, and Ross Hubler will give the team a boost at the first three positions. "Carlos did well at No. 1 last year," the coach said. "He can play with anybody. And he and Kent will give us a strong doubles team."

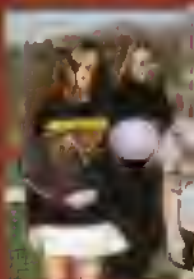
Dr. Andrews is expecting immediate help from freshmen Andrew Bauman, Terry Hill, and Josh Long. Reid Daniels also should make a contribution when he joins the team after basketball season.

"The guys definitely should finish .500 or better," the coach said. "I think they will be competitive with everybody."



Members of the women's tennis team include, from left, freshmen Terry Hill, Andrew Bauman, Courtney Roberts, Heidi Seera, sophomore Silvia Ayala, and Coach Bob Andrews. Also shown are seniors Katie Lestmann, Kimberly Dyer, and Megan Sherrin.

Members of the men's tennis team include, from left, seniors Carlos Ayala, Kent Suter, and Ross Hubler, and freshmen Josh Long, Reid Daniels, and Andrew Bauman.





Lady Lions Becky Blesch (left) and Liz Bass (right) were the team's leading scorers, with 25 and 24 points respectively. The Lady Lions were 17-10 overall, including a 10-5 record in the NCCAA Mid-East Region and a 10-5 record in the NCCAA National tournament.

## LADY LIONS BASKETBALL CONTEND FOR CONFERENCE TITLE

A heart-breaking loss in the AAC Tournament semifinals ended the Cinderella NAIA season for the Lady Lions basketball team as the team compiled a best-ever 25-8 record and a third-place conference finish.

But the Lady Lions went on to win the NCCAA Mid-East Regional championship and a berth in the NCCAA national tournament in early March. First-year Coach Jim Arnold, who won AAC Coach of the Year honors, said this year's success was a combination of returning players with playoff experience, strong leadership from three new players, and hard work by the whole team.

"The girls felt like they had momentum after beating Covenant in the playoffs last year," Coach Arnold said. "That gave them the confidence to believe they could compete with the best."

Senior transfer Becky Blesch and freshman sisters Sarah and Liz Bass brought an offensive one-two-three punch, tossing in an average of more than 50 points per game between them, as well as strong defensive statistics to provide an extra spark for the team. "They all have been nominated for All-Conference honors," the coach said. "The conference coaches feel they are three of the best 15 players in the conference."

In addition, Katie White, Kate Strunk, and Stephanie and Valerie Huttenhoff have provided valuable support to the team effort.

"The girls came in in good shape and have worked hard. They were ready to go forward right away," Coach Arnold said. "Their effort level, combined with their talent, has really paid off."

One of those pay-offs came in December when the Lady Lions defeated Alice Lloyd on the road, the first time they had beaten Alice Lloyd.

Then in a week's time in January, the Lady Lions beat nationally ranked Brevard College, King, Alice Lloyd, and Covenant.

The strong showing this year has set a high mark to live up to, but Coach Arnold is excited about the prospects for the future. "We started two freshmen, two sophomores, and a senior, so we are a young team," he said. "We're losing Becky (Blesch) to graduation. In my opinion, she's the best player in the conference. She's a spiritual leader on the team, as well as the floor leader. She'll be hard to replace as a player and as a person."

"But I feel like all the girls have done a great job. Everybody is supposed to be back, and we have some young people I'm looking at who would be quality players and students."

### Basketball Honors

#### Women's Basketball

Jim Arnold, AAC Coach of the Year

Liz Bass and Sarah Bass, Freshmen of the Year

Becky Blesch, Liz Bass, and Sarah Bass, All-Conference Team

Becky Blesch, Kimmie Hill, Valerie Huttenhoff,

Kate Strunk, Katie White, All-Academic team

Becky Blesch, NCCAA Mid-East Region Player of the Year

#### Men's Basketball

Brandon Gordon, Josh Locy, All-Freshman Team

Chris Travis, All-Conference Team

Josh Locy, Jordan Musselman, Jared Jones,

Michael Carter, Jeff Rohman, Michael Stone,

Aaron Braun-Duin, All-Academic Team

### Lions Tennis Schedule

2/21	MW	Tennessee Wesleyan	Away
2/27	WW	Virginia Intermont	Home
3/13	MW	Virginia Intermont	A
3/14	MW	King	A
3/19	MW	Tenn. Wesleyan	H
3/23	MW	Univ. Va.-Wise	H
3/25	M	Milligan	A
4/2	MW	Univ. Va.-Wise	A
4/3	MW	Montreat	A
4/9	W	Milligan	A
4/12	MW	Montreat	H
4/13	MW	Milligan	H
4/16	MW	King	H
4/18-20		AAC Tournament	

Bold denotes home games



## FROM THE HEART OF A LION VOLUME I

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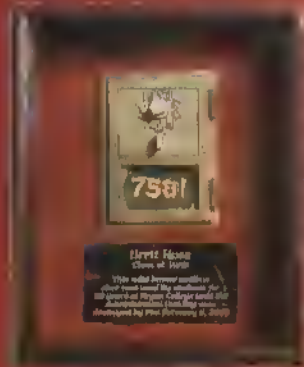
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# Mail Box



In an effort to raise funds for our annual scholarship drive, Bryan College closed to its alumni a mail-order fellow opportunity to purchase the solid bronze mailboxes, complete with the original key numbers that they were issued during

many years as a Bryan student.

The mailboxes could be framed in a matching display shadow box, with a plaque, which depicts the history of the mailbox and the owner and class year of the former owner.

To view your Alumni Mailbox Office key, please call 800-74-ALUMNI or contact your local

around the country. We have been inundated with letters and phone calls expressing appreciation for the chance to own such a unique piece of Bryan College history.

Many boxes were given as Christmas gifts and were received with tears of joy and a lot of love. In turn, this joy has helped raise nearly \$12,000 for deserving young men and women to continue in their liberal arts education at Bryan College. For your generosity, we are extremely grateful.

We have a few boxes left. If you are interested, please write or call to find out more. We are currently accepting orders for the 2004-2005 school year. If you are interested in purchasing a mailbox, please call 800-74-ALUMNI or contact your local

Alumni Office to make your gift now.



James C. Adams, President of Bryan College

## Technology: More Than a Game to Jim Wolfe



Jim and Pattie Wolfe

A business administration degree doesn't necessarily lock a graduate into a banking or sales job, Jim Wolfe, '78, has learned.

Jim is principal and operating partner of a graphic design and marketing company that takes a high-tech approach to meeting a client's communications needs. Those clients have ranged from Bryan College – enjoying the fruits of Brainstorm Design's labors on its website – to international Fortune 500 companies.

Brainstorm is a graphic design and marketing company, Jim explained. "We can develop communication programs in all kinds of media – print, electronic, or web-based – and integrate the components."

The seven-year-old company is not Jim's first entrepreneurial adventure. He started and sold two companies before Brainstorm, striking out on his own after time in banking and marketing in the communications industry.

"I was not a finance major, but I learned how to think at Bryan," he said. "I got more training as I went along, but I really believe that while at Bryan I was coached into how to think." He cited Dr. Robert Spoede, professor emeritus of history and social science; Dr. Bill Ketchersid, professor of history; and former English professor Jerry Sawyer as key to his intellectual development.

From his perspective, running a business is running

a business. "Technology is new and exciting, but it's just a business," Jim said. "I'm not a computer engineer. I see myself as operating a business that has a technical side to it."

And while it's a business in a popular field, he said his firm tries to be careful to ensure it is meeting clients' needs, not just technological daydreams. "If someone says, 'I just have to have a website,' I wouldn't work with them. If they haven't thought through the technology – if it's just like them carrying a Palm Pilot they never use – they're not our kind of client. They need to think, 'How does this solve a problem?' to help their business, not-for-profit organization, or ministry achieve its mission."

Technology may pay the bills, but Jim says his life is much more than his job. When he's not at work, he's taking care of his "core personal mission – being a husband and a dad." He and his wife, Pattie (Davis), '79, are parents of Brittany, 16, Lindsey, 14, Geoffrey, 12, and Hillary, 10. He also serves as a deacon and worship leader at his church, works with the family and sports programs of Shepherd Community, an inner-city ministry in downtown Indianapolis, and is chairman of the board of Cornerstone University. When time permits, he also likes to drive his motorcycle.

Not only did Jim leave Bryan with an education, he met his wife here. "Technology is not Pattie's thing – she's a very gifted teacher – but she has been so supportive of everything I have done. I never would have been successful in life without her. One of my great take-aways from Bryan College is a godly wife."



# Lion Tracks

Spring 2002

## 40's

**ILA RUTH MAHR, '48**, moved to Iowa to be near family. Ila leads a ladies Bible study and volunteers at the local elementary school.

## 50's

**PAUL, '50x**, and **ELAINE (KENNARD), '47, SYERS** serve as missionaries to Brazil. Elaine teaches Portuguese with special classes on pronunciation. Together they are approaching 50 years of service in Brazil.

**RUTH JOY (SEL-TENRIGHT) GULLEY, '53x**, serves as a missionary to Ukraine where she teaches second grade at New Hope Christian School.

**BOB, '56**, and **Wanda HEARING** have completed nine years serving full time with Child Evangelism Fellowship. This includes serving in three states and living in a 33-foot travel trailer.

**CLIFF, '59**, and **MARY ALICE (GREIDER), faculty, '54, BRANSON** reside in Nebraska where Cliff is pastor of Rosehill Evangelical Free Church. They recently traveled over 21,000 miles round trip to visit their daughter, Beth, and family who serve as missionaries with Africa Inland Mission in Mozambique. They were able

to participate in many of the missionary activities. Cliff preached one Sunday while Beth translated into Portuguese and another translated into Cindau.

## 60's

**LOIS (TABER), '63**, and **Dwight BAKER** have moved to New Haven to join the staff at Overseas Ministries Study Center. They are part-time hosts for the individuals and families, mainly international, who live in one of OMSC's apartment buildings; these are people involved in church leadership worldwide.

**DAVID and ANN (KELLY) LIND** both '63, serve as missionaries in Brazil. They ask that we continue to pray that the church's building permit will be granted. They are beginning some of the initial stages of construction by clearing the land.

## 70's

**JOHNNIE TRIVETTE, '70**, announces his retirement as an Air Force colonel effective Feb. 1. He and his wife, **Danet**, plan to live in Oklahoma City, Okla.

**JOHN, '70**, and **JEANETTE (ARMENTROUT), '72x, YOUNG** live in Richmond, Va., where John teaches at Richmond Christian School. They are proud to announce that their son, **Jonathan**, recently married and their daughter, **Jennifer**, is engaged to be married.

**BONITA SPENCER, '74**, and **Jim MEARS** were married Dec. 15. Bryan alums who attended the wedding are pictured from left: **DAVE and BETTY RUTH (BARROWS) SEERA**, both '74;

**MARCIA SHEIN, '74; BONNIE (BOYD) EDENFIELD, '74; STEVE GRIFFITH, '74; and DOW BARTON, '74.**

**GARY SIEFERS, '75**, and his wife, **Cheryl**, reside in Tucson, Ariz., where Gary continues as superintendent of the Pre-K-8th school program as well as overseeing his church's activities for children. Gary has been elected to the Association of Christian Schools International's executive board. Cheryl teaches 2-year-olds in the school's Parent Day Out program.

**PATRICK WHITAKER, '75x**, lives in Memphis, Tenn., where he is the director of Student Services at Belhaven College.

**GLORIA (CORDOVA) CARL, '77x**, and her husband, **Bob**, have moved to New Mexico. Bob has accepted a position at Mesilla Valley Christian School as a history/Bible teacher and Gloria works part-time as a registered nurse in pediatrics.

## 80's

**ERIC P. CLARKE, MD, '80**, has joined the Orthopedic Specialists of East Ridge Hospital in Chattanooga, Tenn. He completed his residency training in orthopedic surgery at the University of Buffalo School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences in Buffalo, N.Y. Following residency, he was an AO fellow in Switzerland and Germany before completing a yearlong fellowship in sports medicine at Northtowns Orthopedics in New York. While there, he was on the medical team for the Buffalo Bills of the National Football League, the Buffalo Sabers of the National Hockey League, and Buffalo State University.

**MARK GARRETT, '80**, and his wife, **Candy**, serve as missionaries to Africa but

are living in Winchester, Ky., on home assignment. They announce the birth of their fourth child, **Anne Elisabeth**, on Sept. 28, 2001. Anne joins sister **Kathryn, 11**, and brothers **Bryan, 7**, and **Ethan, 4**.

**MARTHA (THOMAS), '80**, and **Jeff DINGUS** have two children, **Sarah, 16**, and **Nicholas, 3**. They serve as missionaries with Bancroft Gospel Ministry in Kingsport, Tenn.

**DAVID, '80**, and **JILL (MCCORMICK), '81, SIMPSON** continue to serve with New Tribes Mission but have relocated to their international headquarters in Sanford, Fla. They oversee the processing of short-term associate teachers and non-teachers for NTM's overseas schools for missionaries children.

**JOEL RILEY, '82**, and **Monica Tompkins** were married Sept. 8, 2001. Joel and Monica live in Tampa, Fla.

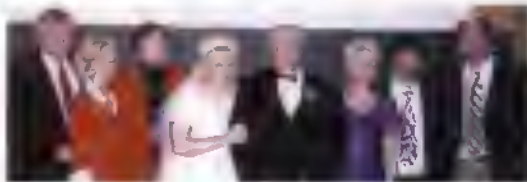


Joel and Monica Riley

**NORMA JEAN (KENNEY), '82x**, and **Bill JANCEWICZ** serve as missionaries to Canada with Wycliffe Bible Translators. They have three children; the oldest, **Benjamin**, is a sophomore in college. Beth is 15 and Nick is 11.



Bill and Norma Jean Janczewicz, Beth and Nick



Bonita and Jim Mears and friends

**DICK and SARA (MURDOCK) HART**, both '83, have returned to Bolivia after being in the States for a year. Dick travels to train teachers for the Theological Education by Extension study centers. Sara is guiding a puppet team through weekly Bible studies with an emphasis on discipleship and personal growth. They have two children, Daniel and David.

**DR. LAURA PAYNE**, '83, is the area director of a new ministry in Knoxville, Tenn., Joni and Friends Knoxville Area Ministry, an affiliate of Joni and Friends, an international ministry to the disabled. Its mission is to make the Gospel accessible to the disabled and their families, to build leaders among those affected by disability, and to assist churches in being effective in their ministry to the disabled.

**MONIQUE (PIERCE) COCANOUGHER**, '83, along with husband, David, daughter, Caitlin, and son, Robert, went on a Make-a-Wish trip to Wyoming. One of their stops was Yellowstone National Park.



*Monique and David Cocanougher, Caitlin and Robert*

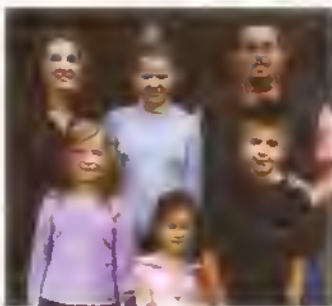
**DEBRA J. RICHARDSON**, '83, resides in Sunrise, Fla. Debra is a flight attendant for American Airlines.

**CYNTHIA (HECKMAN) JONES**, '84, teaches kindergarten at Central Christian School in Kansas. Her husband, Tim, is working toward a degree in elementary education and will finish at Wichita State University. They have two sons, Josh and Jonathan.

**JOHN and JOYCE (JOHNSON) RATHBURN**, both '84,

reside in Texas and are involved in the Wright Way Prison Ministry. John also conducts Sunday services as a volunteer chaplain at Autumn Leaves Retirement Community in Dallas.

**TODD**, '84, and **BARBARA (BATES)**, '87x, **GARDNER** reside in St. Joseph, Mich. Todd recently started his own company, Southshore Marketing. They have four children, Justine, 12; Joshua, 10; Abigail, 8; and Annabelle, 6.



*Todd and Barbara Gardner, Justine, Joshua, Abigail, and Annabelle*

**TITUS HANHAM**, '85, and his wife, Anya, are missionaries to Russia. Titus is now certified to teach a program of 10 courses for pastors and church leaders in Russia. They have had the opportunity to lead a Bible study for several young Russian couples as well as host a number of missionaries and Christian workers.

**SHAWN and DENISE (GEARHART) WOLFE**, both '86, reside in Derwood, Md. They have three children, Ryan, Lauren, and Connor. Shawn is the chief operating officer at Wright Manufacturing, Inc.

**BONNIE (WAGLER) WILLIAMS**, '88, and her husband, Chris, announce the arrival of Tyler Jake, born Aug. 16, 2001. Tyler and his parents live in Land O'Lakes, Fla.



*Chris, Bonnie, and Tyler Williams*

**CELESTA (BEACHY) RICHARDSON**, '88, and her husband, Dennis, are serving as missionaries in Anchorage, Alaska. Their ministry is called InterAct Ministries, which just celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**HANS**, '88, and **MARGARET (JOHNSON)**, '88x, **KIRKMAN** announce the birth of their sixth child, Caroline Louisa, on Sept. 16, 2001. She joins brothers Mitchell, 7; Braxton, 6; Everett, 4; Keagha, 3; and Grayson, 20 months.

**ANDY and KAY (POWELL) BRUNER**, both '88, have returned to the Solomon Islands where they will spend most of their time in Tawatana village on the island of Makira. Andy has made good progress on the Arosi New Testament and if all goes well they trust that it will be published by Easter of 2004.

**DAWN (STACY)**, '89, and Steve **HONECKER** are missionaries supporting Bible translation through JAARS Materials Transportation Service. In February they celebrated 10 years with Wycliffe as a couple. They have two children, Stacie and Heather.



*Steve and Dawn Honecker, Stacie and Heather*

**THOMAS SHANLEY**, '89, and his wife, Jennifer, announce the birth of their second child, Sara Grace, on July 31, 2001. Sara joins big brother Trent.



*Sara Shanley*

## 90's

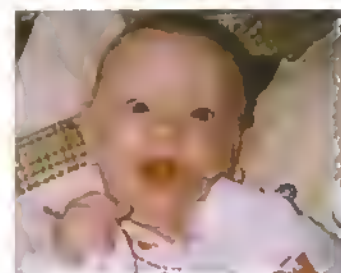
**MICHELLE (OEAVERS)**, '91, and Thomas **ALEXANDER** were married on Sept. 29 in Hagerstown, Md., where the couple resides. Michelle works with the Hagerstown Police Department as a police officer assigned to the Street Crimes Unit. Thomas is a lieutenant with the police department.

**KEVIN**, '91, and **KARLA (TRAMMEL)**, '93, **BOOT** recently moved to Columbia, S.C., to join the staff of Crossover Communications Intl. Kevin has been busy revising orientation guides for Crossover's mission trips to Brazil, Canada, and Bahamas, while Karla has been busy taking a course to learn Portuguese.

**JEANNIE (JONES) MCOANIEL**, '91, was commissioned into the Air Force in December. She is serving at Travis Air Force Base in California.

**TOM STAHLER**, '92, graduated from Baylor University with a Masters of Science degree in information systems in December 1999. He joined ExxonMobil Upstream Technical Computing Co. in Houston, Texas, and is technical team lead of the Documentum 4i Project.

**CASSIE (PAYNE)**, '94, and Tim **FISH** announce the birth of their second child, Anna Blair, on April 11, 2001. She joins her brother Caleb, 2. They reside in Singapore where Tim is the business administrator for the Network of International Christian Schools.



*Anna Fish*



**DANIEL**, '94, and **KIM-BERLEE (HAYS)**, '95, **TERRY** were married on Nov. 24, 2001. They reside in Ferndale, Wash.

**ANNETTE (STEELE)**, '94, and **Rodney MILLER** announce the birth of their daughter, **Charis Joy**, on May 15, 2001. Rodney is the youth pastor at their church in Kittanning, Pa., and Annette helps with the youth and is a stay-home mom.



*Charis Joy Miller*

**JOHN**, '95, and **ANGELA (GRIGGS)**, '94, **SPEARS** announce the arrival of their second son, **Jared Davis**, born Nov. 15. He joins big brother **Andrew**, 2. The Spears family resides in Woodstock, Ga.



*Andrew and Jared Spears*

**JONI (KNECHT)**, '95x, and **Tim PEARSON** were married in August 2001. The wedding party included **BETHANY (PHINNEY) HICKS**, '95, and **SONYA (KNECHT) BICE**, '87. Joni works as an RN in Louisville, Ky., hospitals and recently founded a company that offers continuing education and certification to medical professionals.

**CARRON POWELL**, '96, lives in Columbia, S.C., where

she is enrolled at Columbia Biblical Seminary pursuing a Master's of Divinity degree in leadership for evangelism and discipleship.

**HANNAH THOMASTON**, '96, is residing in Stockbridge, Ga. She is a fifth grade teacher at Eagle's Landing Christian Academy in McDonough, Ga.

**GENCI**, '97, and **EMILY (LINK)**, '99, **KEJA** have relocated to Lancaster, Pa., where Genci is teaching high school science/biology and coaching varsity boys' soccer. They celebrated the first birthday of their son, **Addison Edward**, on Oct. 27, 2001.



*Addison Keja*

**CHRISTINA OAY**, '97, is a fourth-year social studies teacher at Lakeland Christian School in Lakeland, Fla. She is also pursuing a Master's degree in the counselor education program at the University of South Florida where she attends part time.

**GRANT**, '97, and **ERIN (MCKINLEY)**, '98 **HENDRIX** reside in Burlington, N.C. Grant teaches math and coaches soccer at Woodlawn Middle School and Erin is the teller supervisor at First State Bank.

**JEANNA (BROOME)**, '97, and **Brian BAGLEY** were married Aug. 18, 2001. Maid of Honor was **CHRISTINA BROOME**, '98. Bridesmaids were **DURIN-OA COMPTON**, '96; **JENNIFER**

**(BRASHER) DALE**, '96; and **ALLISON WOMBLE**, '98. Guests included **HEATHER BRASHER**, '97, and **JULIE BRASHER**, '99.



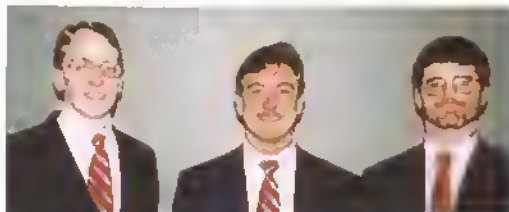
*Brian and Jeanna Bagley*

**DAVID**, '98, and **ANGIE (SKERJANEC)**, '99, **WILKINSON**, along with their son, **Jonathan David**, recently moved to South Africa. David, with his ministry, MasterTeach International, has been invited to provide training for leaders and communicators in 10 African countries.



*David, Angie and Jonathan Wilkinson*

**ANOREW HEATHERSHAW**, '98; **SCOTT CUNNINGHAM**, '93; and **CHARLES PRIEST**, '92, are members of the Tennessee Baptist Chorale, which is composed of ministers of music in Tennessee Baptist churches.



*Andrew Heathershaw, Scott Cunningham, and Charles Priest*

**MANNY CARRILL**, '99, is the co-director of Rhea County's Rites of Passage program in Dayton, Tenn. This is a new program for juvenile offenders that seeks to provide each child with a vision and a goal for life.

## 00's

**TRAVIS STEVENS**, '01, is a missionary in Budapest, Hungary, with Greater Grace World Outreach. Travis is teaching at an international Christian school associated with the church. The school has students from 30 countries in grades K-12. He also helps with the youth group.

## With the Lord

**VIRGINIA (FORD) SAUNDERS**, '39x, of Storrs Mansfield, Conn., passed away Sept. 13, 2001.

**LEONA (WILSON) THEOBOLO**, '42, of Camdenton, Mo., passed away Jan. 6. Leona was preceded in death by her husband, **PAUL**, '43x.

**ANNA ROBINSON**, '83H, of Dayton, Tenn., passed away Jan. 15. Her husband, **Charles**, who is a former staff member at Bryan, survives her, as do her son, **Bill**, '72, and daughter, **Charlotte McSpadden**, '70. Both Anna and Charles were named honorary alumni in 1983.

**Christopher Steele** of Spring City, Tenn., son of **JAMES** and **PEGGY (WENTWORTH) STEELE**, both '74, passed away Nov. 9, 2001.

**FRANCES (HOGUE) CHEERS**, '60, of Dayton, Tenn., passed away Jan. 28.

## Alumni News

# Federal judge orders halt to BEM classes

Bryan's 50-year-old Bible Education Ministry (BEM) was ordered out of Rhea County elementary schools Feb. 8, when a federal judge granted a motion for summary judgment in a suit brought by two local parents and a Wisconsin organization.

Judge R. Allan Edgar granted the motion by the Freedom from Religion Foundation and the two parents, who have been listed as "John Doe" and "Mary Roe," 11 days before the case was to be heard in his Chattanooga courtroom.

The suit alleged that the BEM classes were being taught "devotionally" in violation of the constitutional prohibition of establishment of religion.

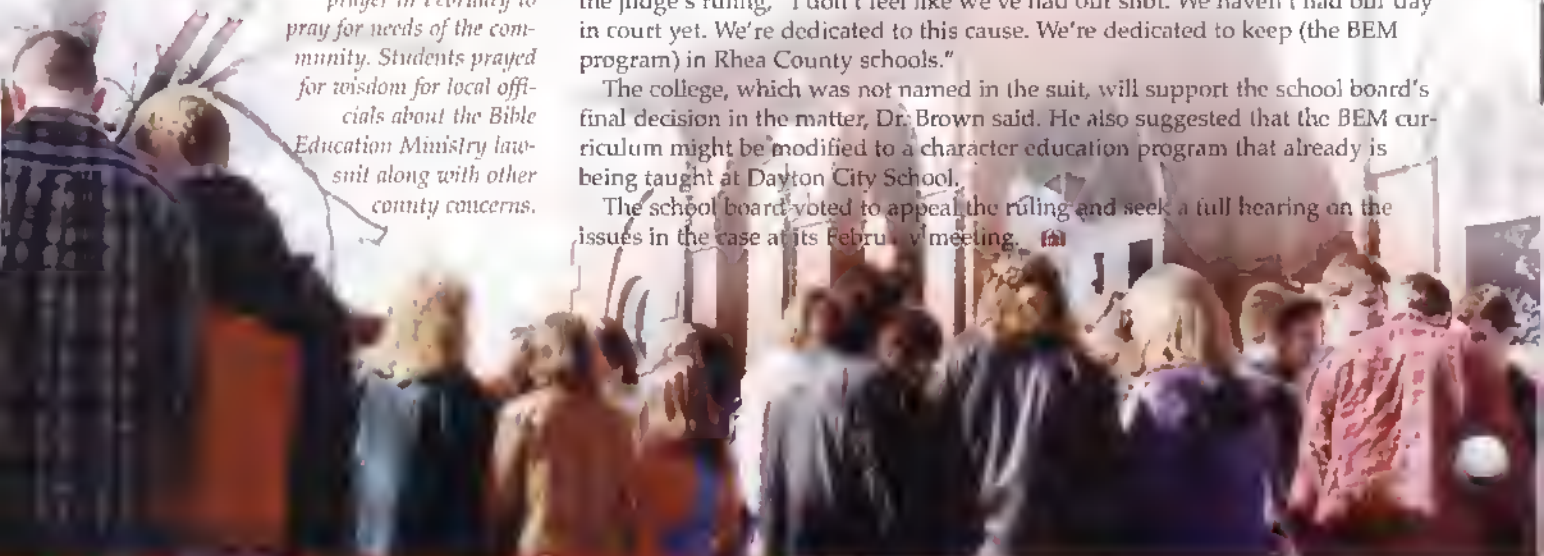
However, Bryan President Dr. William E. Brown disagreed. Dr. Brown said the classes were taught to familiarize students with the content of the Bible, not to impose a sectarian viewpoint. "Every educated person needs to know what's in the Bible," he said. "It's the foundation for western culture."

Rhea County Board of Education Chairman John Mincy said in response to the judge's ruling, "I don't feel like we've had our shot. We haven't had our day in court yet. We're dedicated to this cause. We're dedicated to keep (the BEM program) in Rhea County schools."

The college, which was not named in the suit, will support the school board's final decision in the matter, Dr. Brown said. He also suggested that the BEM curriculum might be modified to a character education program that already is being taught at Dayton City School.

The school board voted to appeal the ruling and seek a full hearing on the issues in the case at its February meeting.

Nearly 100 Bryan students gathered at the Rhea County Courthouse during the college's day of prayer in February to pray for needs of the community. Students prayed for wisdom for local officials about the Bible Education Ministry lawsuit along with other county concerns.



## Dr. David J. Masoner named Senior V.P.

Lucas County, Ohio, President Dr. David J. Masoner has been named senior vice president of the college effective July 1. President Dr. William E. Brown has announced.

Dr. Masoner, who has been vice president since 1995, will oversee areas including major financial relations with major funding sources and the college's administrative offices. In addition, he will offer administrative support to the president.

The college has been a leader in making decisions about its president, and this is the first time the position has been held by the same person for more than 10 years.

"Dr. Masoner has provided solid leadership in the college's most recent years and will be a great link in the experience of continuing to move forward," said Dr. Brown. "He has been a great leader in the college's history, and his leadership will be a great asset to the college as it continues to represent us in the future."

"I'm excited about this opportunity," Dr. Masoner said. "I strongly believe in the college's mission and the work we are doing, and I'm excited to lead the college in the future. I'm looking forward to working with the college's leadership and the faculty and staff to continue to represent us in the future."

Dr. Masoner was born in the United States and has a degree in the field of education from the University of Wisconsin. He is currently a professor of education at the University of Wisconsin.



## Center for Law and American Government

Bryan College will open the Center for Law and American Government under the direction of Tenn. State Sen. David Fowler, Dr. William E. Brown has announced.

Dr. Brown said this is a step toward having Bryan College offer a "distinctively cutting-edge program on a biblical understanding of the relationship between law and religion. It's exciting to have people who are engaged in the political process to encourage our students to do what William Jennings Bryan did - take stands from a distinctively biblical outlook."

At the same time, Sen. Fowler will develop a symposium for state legislators from around the country to come to Bryan College for several days to discuss from a biblical perspective the principles that underlie many issues they confront.

Sen. Fowler also is developing a course in American political philosophy as part of Bryan's new political science major.

"This is an opportunity for our students to interact with somebody who thinks like them who is in a political position of influence," Dr. Brown said. "I believe it will be energizing for Sen. Fowler to interact with our students as they challenge each other in the classroom."



# **Summit at Bryan College July 14-26, 2002**

Fifty percent of young people who claim to be Christians when they enter college claim not to be Christians when they graduate.

***Don't be a statistic.  
Be a Leader!***

The Summit at Bryan College will train high school and college students ages 16-21 to defend their Christian faith and equip them with the skills they need to make a difference in the world.

**Instructors:** *Jeff Myers, Director, Summit at Bryan College*  
*Bill Brown, President, Bryan College*  
*David Noebel, President, Summit Ministries*  
*Ron Nash, Professor, Reformed Theological Seminary*  
*Many other great speakers*

## **Included:**

Mentoring and teaching with quality speakers and musicians • A power-packed, 500-page notebook with tons of stuff to help you defend your faith • Great meals • Discounts on great books • Use of collegiate athletic facilities • Air-conditioned residence hall room • T-Shirt

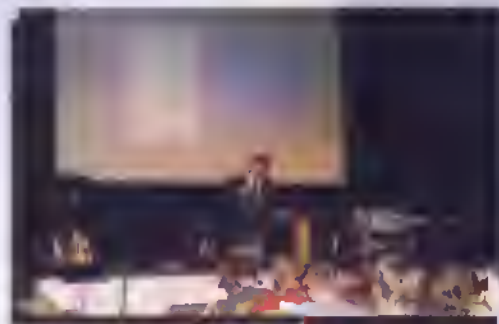
All of this for only \$675! Space is limited. Must be 16 or older to attend.

## **Contact:**

For more information or an application, call 423-775-7599

or write The Summit at Bryan College  
P.O. Box 7812, Dayton, TN 37321-7000  
or e-mail: [summit@bryan.edu](mailto:summit@bryan.edu).

Visit our website at [www.mysummit.org](http://www.mysummit.org)





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